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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/755,030	01/09/2004	Hideo Ikeno	CANO:113	7878
37013	7590	10/20/2005	EXAMINER	
ROSSI, KIMMS & McDOWELL LLP.			GLEITZ, RYAN M	
P.O. BOX 826			ART UNIT	
ASHBURN, VA 20146-0826			PAPER NUMBER	
			2852	

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/755,030

Applicant(s)

IKENO, HIDEO

Examiner

Ryan Gleitz

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2005.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11 is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 4-7 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/09/04.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

Claims 12-24 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 6 October 2005.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fukushima (US 6,366,741).

Fukushima disclose a monitoring apparatus (201n; col. 5, lines 40-41) capable of acquiring maintenance information from a plurality of image forming apparatuses to be monitored via a communication line (207), and capable of communicating with a management apparatus, service center (210) including an acquiring device that acquires the maintenance information from the plurality of image forming apparatuses to be monitored; and a management device that carries out central management of completion of operations carried out for the plurality of image forming apparatuses to be monitored. Col. 32, lines 4-15.

Regarding claim 3, the maintenance information acquired from the image forming apparatuses includes information relating to consumable supplies, number of copy sheet, col. 8, line 34, used in the image forming apparatuses, and information relating to failure, for example, number of jam occurrence times, col. 8, line 33, having occurred in the image forming apparatuses.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Oya (US 2004/0186694)

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Oya discloses in figure 1 a monitoring apparatus (1) capable of acquiring maintenance information from a plurality of image forming apparatuses to be monitored via a communication line, and capable of communicating with a management apparatus.

An acquiring device, [0079], that acquires the maintenance information from the plurality of image forming apparatuses to be monitored; and a management device (6) that carries out central management of completion of operations carried out for the plurality of image forming apparatuses to be monitored. See abstract.

Regarding claim 3, the maintenance information acquired from the image forming apparatuses includes information relating to consumable supplies used in the image forming

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apparatuses, and information relating to failure having occurred in the image forming apparatuses. See [0115].

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claim 8-11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims are considered patentable because of the inclusion of the claim limitations, an installation completion receiving device that receives an installation completion report including information identifying the monitoring apparatus by electronic mail, that is not taught by or suggested by the prior art of record.

Claims 2 and 4-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Other Prior Art***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Fukushima (JP 2003-162399) discloses a remote monitoring system for image forming devices including a monitoring device and remote monitoring center.

***Contact Information***

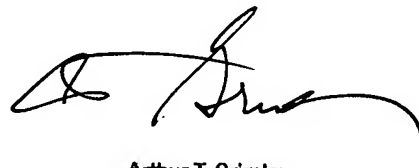
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan Gleitz whose telephone number is (571) 272-2134. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 9:00AM and 6:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on (571) 272-2136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
rg



Arthur T. Grimley  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
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